(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how does his Ministry propose to utilize their land lying vacant in the best interest of all?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Till such time Railway does not need vacant land for operations, such Railway land may be utilized for short term uses like commercial licensing, plantation, Grow More Food scheme and commercial development etc.

Attachment of additional AC coach to Express trains in Andhra Pradesh

2751. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any additional AC coach on a regular basis is being attached to all express trains in South Central Railways in Andhra Pradesh from 2nd October, 2007;

(b) whether it is a fact that Railways have assured additional accommodation in all Express trains which originate in Andhra Pradesh and ply only in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the steps proposed to introduce an eight bogie/Coach between Secunderabad-Rajahmundry; and

(d) the reasons for not meeting traffic demand on Secunderabad-Rajahmundry sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) All important and well patronized trains are provided with AC coaches on regular basis to facilitate travel of upper class passengers. In addition, extra coaches are also attached to clear seasonal rush. Provision of coaches in trains is an ongoing process keeping in view the traffic pattern/patronisation, operational feasibility and availability of resources.

(c) and (d) There are 11 pairs of trains running between Rajahmundry and Secunderabad which are considered adequate to the present traffic demand. At present there is no proposal to run any new train between Secunderabad and Rajahmundry.

Guna-Etawah rail line

†2752. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has sanctioned railway line between Guna and Etawah over many years but this plan is not completed till now, and if so, by when it is likely to be completed;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the amount of work yet to be completed and the main reasons for delay;

(c) the estimated expenditure of this plan; and

(d) by when Bhind to Etawah railway line would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) Guna-Etawah (348.25 km) new rail line was sanctioned in 1985-86. Entire section except Bhind-Etawah (36 km) has already been completed and commissioned. There has been delay in completion of this 36 km section due to non-transfer of forest land involving Wild Life Sanctuary by Government of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Work shall be completed in about a year time once the land is made available. The latest anticipated cost of the project is Rs.515.24 crore.

Survey of rail lines in Uttarakhand

†2753. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the railway lines in the State of Uttarakhand where survey work is in progress;

(b) whether Ramnagar-Chaukhutia railway line mentioned in the speech of Minister of Railways in the year 1984-85 has also been included in these railway lines; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and time by when the survey work of this line is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No survey is in progress in the State of Uttarakhand.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The survey for Ramnagar to Chaukhutiya line had already been completed in 1994-95.

New railway zone at Salem

2754. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any administrative obstacles and inconvenience to operate the new railway zone at Salem in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by Government to solve such obstacles and also the indifferent attitude of the officials at Bangalore railway zone and Palakkad railway division; and

(d) the amount allocated for the full fledged railway operations at Salem, Tamil Nadu?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.